Summary

This Alternative would increase direct livestock earnings from the existing situation by $45,100 in the short-term and by $169,500 in the long-term. This, however, represents only a gain of .04 to .2 percent in the PRA farm earnings. Direct recreation earnings would increase from the existing situation by $6,400, or a gain of less than one-tenth of one percent in the PRA retail trade earnings. Direct lumber and wood earnings would be decreased from the existing situation by $21,700. In the long-term, the capital value of AUMs could be increased by as much as $2.0 million. Improvements needed to implement this Alternative would cost $572,600.

Access

Under Alternatives B through E, obtaining legal public access to approximately 37,300 acres of public land (17 percent of the PRA) and marking boundaries of the public lands would ensure the continuation of present public recreational activities. Problems with trespass would diminish and visitor management would improve. Upgrading of some of the access roads would have both positive and negative effects depending on the degree of upgrading needed, extent, and location (see Map 8).

Additional access would have a slight adverse impact because of chance of littering and some ORV use outside of designated roads and trails.

ALTERNATIVE D

Minerals Management

Alternative D has the most restrictions to mineral availability.

Solid Leasable Minerals

Under Alternative D, the lands open for solid mineral leasing total 598,581 acres, or 93 percent of the total acres administered for solid leasable minerals (see Table 4.1). Under this Alternative, 44,378 acres are closed to solid mineral leasing for the protection of wildlife refuges, recreation, watershed, and cultural resource values, which is an increase of 5,483 acres when compared to Alternative A. The increase in acres closed to leasing includes 977 acres of proposed RNAs, 2,706 acres of ACECs, and 1,800 acres of Downey Public Water Reserve. Of the total 44,378 acres closed to leasing, 5,733 acres (453 acres more than Alternative A) have a low potential for phosphate; the remainder have no potential. The additional 453 acres of low potential withdrawn lands are located within the Stump Creek and Travertine Park ACECs (Table 4.1). The land withdrawals would not significantly affect

the availability of lands for solid leasable mineral exploration and development. Less than 3 percent of the total lands open for leasing are currently under lease.

The status of the active, inactive, and proposed phosphate mining operations would not change under Alternative D. The phosphate ore production from those land administered by the BLM (not including U.S. Forest Service lands) during the life of this RMP would total about 4.5 million tons (same as Alternative A). This production represents a commitment of resources, but is not significant when compared to the leased phosphate resource base of 554 million tons.

The impacts due to phosphate prospecting and exploration would be minimal and short-term due to existing mitigating measures, State and Federal regulation, and site-specific environmental requirements.

Fluid Leasable Minerals

Oil and Gas/Geothermal

The lands open to oil and gas leasing total 354,508 acres, or 90 percent of the total land administered for oil and gas. This is the same as Alternative A (Table 4.1). The lands open to geothermal leasing total 348,566 acres, or 90 percent of the land administered for geothermal resources. This is also the same as Alternative A (Table 4.1, Appendices: Map 5, Alternative D).

NSO stipulations would occur on 40,709 acres, or 10 percent of the total area administered for both fluid minerals. The NSO restrictions are for the protection of recreation, watershed, and cultural resource values. This Alternative includes 15,888 acres, or 64 percent more acres with NSO stipulations as compared to the total NSO acreage under Alternative A. The additional acreage consist of 2,706 acres of ACECs, 977 acres of RNAs, and 12,205 acres of cultural sites. NSO stipulations impact 9,191 acres with moderate oil and gas potential and 24,663 acres with high potential.

Geothermal potential is low in all of the PRA and is not affected by this Alternative.

Locatable Minerals

Lands open to mining claim location total 329,273 acres (85 percent) (977 less than Alternative A)(Appendicies: Map 5, Alternative D, and Map 11).

Environmental assessments would be written for all plans of operation filed under 43 CFR 3802/3809.

Minerals Materials

The lands open to mineral materials disposal total 301,583 acres, or 78 percent of the total land administered for mineral materials (Table 4.1). This is 17,274 acres less than would be available under Alternative A. The additional acreage consists of 2,706 acres of ACECs, 977 acres of RNAs, 12,205 acres of cultural sites, and 1,386 acres of communications sites and public water reserves (Appendices: Map 5, Alternative D, and Map 12). A total of 85,878 acres would be closed to mineral material disposal for the protection of recreation, watershed, and cultural resource values.

Alternative D also would include the following additional impacts on minerals from proposed management activities:

1. A total of 14,046 acres of public land would be disposed of through sales and exchanges. This would have little impact to the minerals program due to the low mineral potential associated with these acres..

2. A total of 3,884 acres would be closed to mineral exploration on a seasonal basis to protect sensitive soils (2,882 more than Alternative A).

3. A total of 130,000 acres would have seasonal restrictions to protect wildlife (same as Alternative A).

4. A total of 2,706 acres of ACECs would require filing plans of operation in accordance with the 43 CFR 3809 for any locatable mining proposed, even if the area of disturbance is less than 5 acres.

Lands

Under Alternative D, 8,124 acres would be identified for disposal from Federal ownership. The lands identified for disposal would have to meet screening criteria (see Standard Operating Procedures, Part I) that eliminates the likelihood of significant adverse environmental impacts.

Approximately 45,335 acres would be closed to right-of-way development to protect wilderness, recreation, wildlife, watershed, and cultural resource values.

Acquisition of 11,647 acres of private land and an estimated 9,880 acres of State land is proposed to support wildlife, recreation and other resource programs. This would be done mainly through the land exchange program.

Approximately 222 acres would remain under lease or permit for the protection of recreation sites (e.g., yurt system, ski area). The impacts associated with this Alternative would be the similar to Alternative A, only to a lesser degree. The overall impact to management efficiency would be beneficial

because fewer disruptions and dislocations would affect people authorized to use the land.

Range Management

The stocking rate under this Alternative is 28,840 AUMs. This is a 16.6 percent increase from the current 5-year average use and a 1.1 percent decrease from the current active preference. The long-term stocking rate is 29,519. This is a 2.4 percent increase from the initial stocking rate of 28,840 and an 18.5 percent increase from the current 5-year average of 24,061 AUMs.

There are 15,400 unallotted acres under this Alternative. Without livestock utilization, it is estimated that 70 percent of the unallotted acres would remain in mid or late seral condition (fair and good), while 30 percent would eventually in the long-term (5+ years) improve to both late seral (good) and potential natural community (excellent).

Approximately 8,124 acres are identified for disposal from Federal ownership. Based on an average stocking rate of 7.28 acres/AUM, the transfer would result in a loss of 1,116 AUMs. Both short-term and long-term impacts are considered minimal to none, since these acres would no longer be under BLM administration. Table A.2 in the Appendix gives detailed information on disposal category lands.

Under this Alternative, there will be 76 water facilities constructed, 82 miles of fencing built, and 1,500 acres of former agricultural trespass lands restored to native range. There are no brush control/seedings scheduled under this Alternative. It is assumed that the absence of brush control and seedings would result in an increase in brush, especially in the long-term. This would decrease the amount of available, palatable grass for livestock utilization.

Under this Alternative, all management recommendations would be implemented to improve riparian areas. Approximately 34.15 miles of stream would improve, while 59.64 miles of stream would remain in good to stable condition. Zero miles would continue to deteriorate. The streams that would improve are:

	Miles	Allotment		Miles	Allotment
Graehl	0.90	4005			
Horse Creek	0.60	4045	Unnamed Tribe. #3	0.50	4060
Stump Creek	0.90	4018	Graves Creek	0.40	4112
Stump Creek	0.25	4045	Tolman Creek	0.45	4069
Dairy Hollow	0.35	4407	Lanes Creek	0.30	4120
Unnamed Tribe. #2	0.25	4346	Landers Creek	0.40	4236
Turner Canal	0.25	4117	Wolverine Creek	0.20	4092
Horse Creek	0.10	4332	Jones Creek	0.80	4423
Meadow Creek	0.40	4134	Deadman Creek	0.25	4112

	Miles	Allotment		Miles	Allotment
Sheep Creek	0.25	4160	Negro Creek	0.25	4320
WF Sheep Creek	0.50	4185	Negro Creek	0.45	0006
Pegram Creek	0.40	4329	Eighteen Creek	0.35	4162
Road Hollow	0.70	4305	Eighteen Creek	0.25	4190
Indian Creek	0.25	4167	Blackfoot River	0.20	0006
Indian Creek	0.80	4232	Blackfoot River	2.70	4320
Handman Hollow	0.25	4015	Blackfoot River	0.30	4320
Coop Creek	0.90	4021	Blackfoot River	2.30	4112
Sleight Creek	0.25	4195	Blackfoot River	3.00	4112
Unnamed Tributary to Crow Creek	0.30	4269	Blackfoot River	1.90	4112
			Blackfoot River	0.20	4316
Tygee Creek	0.20	4129	Blackfoot River	0.90	4430
Pegram Creek	0.70	4122	Blackfoot River	0.50	4430
Fishhaven Creek	0.90	4125	Blackfoot River	2.05	4320
Green Canyon	0.50	4053	Bear River	0.10	4036
Main Canyon	0.20	4256	Bear River	0.25	0036
Miles Canyon	0.40	4415	Bear River	0.60	4115
Johnson Spring Draw	0.35	4207	Bear River	0.10	0023
NF Eagle Creek	0.20	4346	Unnamed Tribe. #3	0.50	4450
Right Fork Georgetown Creek	0.50	4353	Smith Creek	0.50	4355
			Alder Creek North & South	0.65	4336
Maple Creek	0.25	4246			
	TOTAL		34.15 miles		

The above 34.15 miles of stream fall within 58 grazing allotments. The management solution to grazing impacts to the riparian areas will involve the initiation and implementation of grazing formulas. High priority objectives for the formulas will be to reduce/eliminate livestock utilization on riparian vegetation, reduce sedimentation, lower water temperature, reduce streambank sluffing, and reduce livestock fecal matter in the streams.

The minerals program indicates that phosphate lease exist on 1,800.22 acres where BLM manages both surface and subsurface. The 1,800.22 acres are differentiated in the following manner:

	Acres
1. Active (where active mining exists) Monsanto's Henry 80	80
2. Inactive (where active mining has occurred) Stauffer 160 Simplot's Woodall 370	530
3. Undeveloped leases	1190.22
	1800.22

Currently, BLM has 80 acres within the active mining designations and 530 acres in the inactive designations, unallotted for grazing. The areas within the lease areas, however, have not been actively mined. There has been no loss of vegetation or soil disturbance.

The BLM has some Taylor Grazing Act Section 15 grazing leases scattered throughout the undeveloped lease areas (1,190.22 acres). No negative impacts from mining are anticipated to the range program for both the short-term (3-5 years) or long-term (5+ years).

If portions of the present undeveloped mining lease areas become active, the short-term impact to grazing would be negative since disturbed areas would virtually eliminate grazing. However, because of mitigating measures (seeding disturbed areas), the long-term impacts would be positive since the forage would be replaced.

ORV activities (i.e., gates left open, fence cutting, harassment of livestock, decrease of vegetative cover, and hill/gully development that promote both on-site and off-site erosion) would adversely impact livestock management throughout the PRA, especially within the following allotments:

1. Trail Creek Allotment #6098
2. Rapid Creek Allotment #6082
3. Bancroft Allotment #6032
4. Toponce Allotment #3342
5. Sheep Creek Hills Area
6. Bear Lake Plateau Area
7. Blackrock Allotment #6097

Impacts to Vegetation

The long-term ecological range condition in the PRA under this Alternative would be 5 percent potential natural community, 75 percent late seral, 18 percent mid seral, 1 percent early seral, and 1 percent disturbed.

The long-term trend would be 40 percent upward, 58 percent static, and 2 percent downward.

Wildlife Management

Land disposal actions would reduce the amount of big game winter range by 2,756 acres and sage and sharp-tailed grouse habitat by 1,610 acres. Planned changes in livestock grazing would improve ecological condition on 5,724 acres. The amount of winter range for big game in unsatisfactory condition would be 83,731 acres, or 98 percent of the total. This includes proposed bitterbrush planting on 597 acres.

Projected populations of 7,243 deer and 554 elk exceed BLM's proportional share of Idaho Fish and Game's herd management goals by 6 percent and 7 percent, respectively.

Sage and sharp-tailed grouse habitat, although reduced by land disposals, would equal 98,264 acres. Out of this figure, 93 percent would be in satisfactory condition. The expected improvement of 3,917 acres, which is a 4 percent improvement over the current situation, would result from more intensive livestock management practices. An improvement in sage grouse distribution on 4,000 acres of the Bear Lake Plateau should result from the installation of two guzzlers.

Geese would be the primary beneficiaries of improved riparian habitats along the Bear River and Chesterfield Reservoir. Proposed changes in grazing management would improve 58 acres of forage quality and quantity in these areas. Thirteen goose nesting platforms are estimated to increase production by 26 geese per year.

Restrictions on oil, gas, and geothermal exploration are expected to reduce impacts from these activities to insignificant levels.

ORV use limitations under this Alternative would reduce impacts to wildlife to insignificant levels.
The proposal to cancel grazing in the Stump Creek ACEC would increase AUMs available to wildlife by 430. With no grazing, 6 miles of fence could be removed to make big game movement easier. This would be a beneficial impact to big game, but not one that can be easily measured.

Recreation and Visual Resources

Adoption of the proposed ORV designations, visual resource management classes and Special Recreation Management Area designations would enhance recreation opportunities and use. Table 4.2 lists visitor use day estimates for selected recreation activities in the PRA for this Alternative.

Dispersed recreational ORV use would continue as in Alternative A with a slight increase resulting from improved access. Additional restrictions on ORV use to protect soil and watershed values, cultural sites, and big game winter range would not adversely impact recreational ORV use. Most of the ORV use occurs on established roads and trails and designations would not change this trend. Over-snow ORV closures to protect wintering wildlife would have an insignificant effect on snowmobiling because numerous opportunities are available outside of the closure areas.

The number of developed recreation sites would increase eight. These developments would help meet approximately one percent of the identified camping needs for the seven counties in the PRA (1983 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan). Overall, site construction and development would

increase recreation use of the public lands by an estimated 1,500 visitor use days. This increase would represent less than one percent of the total recreation use in the PRA. No mineral withdrawals are proposed for developed or potential recreation sites because the known mineral values are minimal. The potential loss of facilities to mining and mineral leasing activities is considered slight.

The Pocatello and Blackfoot River Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs) would be designated under this Alternative. Emphasis would be given to managing ORV use in the Pocatello SRMA and water-based recreation in the Blackfoot River SRMA. A positive impact to recreation would result because priority for recreation funding, management, and staffing would be placed on the areas.

Visual resource management objectives under this Alternative would be more restrictive than all the other Alternatives (refer to Standard Operating Procedures, Visual Resources, Part I). A beneficial impact to visual resources would result with more restrictive management.

The removal of timber and associated activities, such as road building, would improve access for recreationists. Generally, improved access would shift recreation opportunities and uses to less primitive forms. Hunting would increase slightly with better vehicle access as would motorized recreation and wood gathering. Most impacts would be slight because of the small areas involved in intensive forest management practices. However, a considerable impact would result in the Petticoat Peak area. If Congress decides that the area would not be designated as wilderness, the 2,559 acres of commercial timber would be available for sale. Removal of the timber and associated activities would impact both recreation opportunities and visual resources (see Eastern Idaho Wilderness EIS).

Cultural resource designations and management of specific sites for their educational, recreational, and interpretive values would have a positive impact to recreation use. Visitors would gain an appreciation and awareness of historic and prehistoric values of the public lands, thereby enhancing most recreation activities.

Management actions to improve stream conditions and fisheries would have a positive impact on fishing opportunities and use. Stream improvements, particularly for the Blackfoot River, would improve fish production. An estimated increase of 2,400 visitor use days of fishing use would result.

Proposed fencing of developed campgrounds would have a beneficial impact on recreation use. Conflicts between livestock and recreationists would be significantly reduced.

Management actions to improve wildlife habitat would have a beneficial impact on big game hunting. Deer and elk populations would be increased slightly.

An increase of 348 visitor use days of hunting use would result. Over-snow ORV closures of areas where big game winter would have a slight adverse impact on winter recreation use. However, abundant opportunities exist for snowmobile use outside of wildlife winter range.

There would be no impacts under Alternative D to recreation use and visual resources from soils and watershed management actions.

Mining and mineral leasing activities would impact dispersed recreation by disrupting the natural appearance of the landscape and shifting the recreation opportunity setting from the more natural appearing to the developed type. However, since the extent, location, and nature of future operations is not known, the actual impacts cannot be predicted. In general, mineral leasing impacts to recreation and visual resources would be lessened because of restrictions and stipulations on leasing activities. Recreation areas, streams, and other water resources important to recreation and scenic value would be protected from leasing activities with a NSO stipulation. Overall, the impacts to recreation and visual resources from mining and mineral leasing activities would be slight to moderate.

Obtaining and improving public access to public lands and marking boundaries would have a beneficial impact on recreational opportunities over the long-term. Right-of-way and easement acquisition to approximately 37,300 acres of landlocked public lands would ensure access for hunting, fishing, and other activities. Problems with trespass would diminish and visitor management would be improved. Overall, more recreational opportunities would be provided on lands not being used because of access problems.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)

Under this Alternative, the Stump Creek, Downey Watershed, and Travertine Park ACECs would be designated, totaling 4,506 acres of public land. Priority for management would be given to the three areas.

ORV designations would restrict motorized recreational use to existing roads and trails in all three areas. The ORV designations would protect the resources and values of the areas. Therefore, ORV use would not have any measurable impact on the three ACECs.

Restrictions on grazing and proposed fencing would minimize or eliminate impacts to the three ACECs, particularly in the Stump Creek ACEC where grazing would be eliminated.

Mining and mineral leasing activities would be restricted in the ACEC designation areas. NSO stipulations would be applied to the three areas for leasable energy minerals and the Travertine Park and Stump Creek areas would closed to non-energy leasables. The Downey Watershed is closed to mining claims. The low to moderate potential for locatables in the Stump Creek and

Travertine Park areas indicate that mining claim location may not take place. All three areas are closed to salable minerals in this Alternative.

Research Natural Area (RNAs)

RNA designations would be made for all seven of the RNAs, totaling 1,494 acres. This Alternative would provide protection for the plant associations of State and national importance in the seven RNAs from significant adverse impacts.

ORV use would be prohibited in the Cheatbeck Canyon, Dairy Hollow, Formation Cave, Pine Gap, and Travertine Park RNAs' proposals. These areas are accessible to ORV use and restrictions on motorized travel are necessary to protect plant communities. A limited ORV designation for the Robbers Roost area and the generally inaccessible nature of the Oneida Narrows area would prevent ORV use from damaging plant habitats.

Livestock grazing would be eliminated from the Dairy Hollow, Pegram Hollow, and Travertine Park by fencing the areas. Changes in plant composition and cover would be left to natural processes resulting in a positive impact to the proposed RNAs. The remaining four RNAs are generally inaccessible to livestock grazing and impacts to plant communities are anticipated to be slight.

Under this Alternative, the NSO stipulation on leasable mineral activity and closure to mineral material removal in the RNA proposals would prevent adverse impacts from occurring to plant communities.

Cultural Resource MAnagement

Adverse cultural resource impacts would be significantly reduced. Cultural resource losses would continue, but loss rates should be reduced significantly because of protection-oriented natural resource management under this Alternative. Cultural resource management would focus on public education, scientific use, and long-term site protection.

Standard operating procedures would mitigate mineral, land, range, wildlife, and forestry activities' adverse, localized cultural resource impacts. Livestock trampling, wheeled ORV use, and other dispersed impacts would also be reduced. Short-term impacts would be significantly reduced. Some short-term impacts are anticipated from proposed range improvement projects. Inventory and mitigation will be required for proposed water developments and fences. No brush control projects are planned. This would eliminate potential direct and indirect cultural resource impacts on 11,240 acres. Available acreage for ORV use would be reduced and closely regulated. This would reduce surface artifact breakage and displacement. It would also restrict access to some remote or isolated cultural resource sites. Anticipated long-term impacts would not be severe or significant. Standard

inventory, evaluation, and mitigation procedures would minimize the localized impacts' adverse effects. Some dispersed impacts are difficult to eliminate, e.g., widespread livestock trampling and ORV use effecting some sites and isolated artifacts. Activity plans would mitigate some dispersed impacts, and some localized, non-project related impacts. General site impact mitigation would favor site avoidance over salvage. This would further reduce irretrievable and irreversible cultural resource commitments .

Cultural resource management plan preparation and implementation would have highest priority. Activity plans would protect 35 documented prehistoric and historic sites on 33,910 acres. NSO designations would protect documented sites, and other cultural values on 12,260 acres. Sensitive Area designations would restrict other natural resource program activities on 21,650 acres (refer to Table S.1). Management plans would evaluate site condition and recommend protective measures. Inventories would be conducted to confirm site potential estimates and increase PRA's cultural site data base. Other management plan objectives would include elimination of identified, on-going site impacts, and reduce vandalism and unauthorized use. Plans would also allocate cultural resources to specific use categories. A management plan has been prepared, approved, and implemented for the PRA's Oregon Trail segments. All phases of this plan would be implemented.

Forest Management

Under this Alternative, 12,447 acres of commercial forest land would be available for restricted forest management. An additional 808 acres would be available with no restrictions. Lands managed to enhance other uses would total 1,078 acres. This would result in a potential sustainable allowable cut of approximately 3.7 MMBF per decade. Also, under this Alternative, 28,211 acres of woodland would be available for the limited harvest of minor forest products. This would include sale of posts/poles, firewood, and hobby wood.

Harvest practices such as clearcut, shelterwood, and selective cut would influence amount of vegetation cover on approximately 50 acres each year. These harvest activities would benefit forest resources by regenerating the stand, reducing insects and disease through removal of infected trees, and improving growth and production of residual trees.

Forest development practices such as thinning, planting, and use of herbicides would be implemented on available commercial forest lands. The beneficial impact of these silvicultural techniques would be improved stocking levels and growth rates and a decrease in insect and disease problems.

Under this Alternative, 1,248 acres of commercial forest land would be removed from the timber base due to proposed land sale or exchanges under the lands and realty program. Approximately 156 acres of woodland would also be removed from the woodland base for the same reason. Juniper cutting areas proposed in the soils program would remove an additional 300 acres from the woodland

base. The reduction in commercial forest land would have a slight adverse impact on the availability of sawtimber, firewood, and other forest products resulting in a reduction of the annual allowable cut by less than 10 percent.

Grazing would influence forest management activities by endangering the establishment of regeneration. The influence can be partially mitigated through control of season of use and livestock distribution.

Riparian and Water Quality

Road and drill pad construction for oil and gas exploration, and phosphate mining would adversely affect surface water by changing flow patterns and water quality. Increased runoff and erosion on disturbed land would cause some increased rates of suspended and bed load-sediment transport in stream channels.

Timber sale activity would increase erosion and cause a subsequent increase in sedimentation of streams and a decrease in water quality, mainly from road building activity.

Under this Alternative, the limited amounts of surface disturbance and the use of best management practices and standard operating procedures, in conjunction with mineral development and timber harvesting, would result in decreases in sedimentation and increases in water quality so small that they would not be distinguished from the normal observed seasonal fluctuations.

By the use of standard operating procedures and best management practices (see Part I), the BLM will meet or exceed Idaho State water quality standards. Monitoring will be conducted to check compliance and effectiveness of these practices and procedures, and they would be refined and modified to protect beneficial uses such as fisheries and drinking water.

Under this Alternative, 7.31 miles of riparian habitat would be proposed for sale. This is approximately 5 percent of the riparian habitat in the PRA. Of this, 3.65 miles of stream inventoried was found to be in fair to good condition. In addition, 40 acres of marsh-wetland and 3.3 acres of Bear Lake shoreline would be proposed for sale.

Riparian vegetation, water quality, and streambank condition were factors considered in evaluating riparian habitat. Under this Alternative, no riparian habitat would deteriorate in condition because all recommended management options to improve riparian habitat would be implemented. This would occur on 34.15 miles of stream (see Appendix C). This is 100 percent of the miles of riparian habitat with potential to be improved. This would include constructing approximately 13 miles of fence to create riparian pastures and limiting utilization by livestock to 50 percent on key riparian species.

A total of 59.64 miles of riparian area would be managed to maintain existing riparian values of good condition and stable trend. Approximately 22.7 miles of fishery streams would be expected to improve; no miles would continue to deteriorate; 29.12 miles would remain unchanged.

In general, impacts to water quality, fisheries habitat, and riparian habitat from surface disturbing activities such as mining, timber harvesting, and road construction would be mitigated on a site-specific basis through the application of standard operating procedures and general best management practices.

Impacts to riparian zones due to heavy grazing by livestock would be reduced by elimination of season-long grazing, especially grazing of riparian areas in the months of June, July, and August. If grazing is allowed during the hot growing season, utilization of key riparian species would be limited to 50 percent.

Soils and Watershed Management

ORV would be restricted to existing roads and trails on soils highly sensitive to erosion.

Oil and gas exploration activity on sensitive soils would be controlled by special stipulations and provisionary options provided in the seasonal and standard lease stipulations.

About 867 acres of agriculture trespass lands would be restored to native range, thereby reducing erosion by several tons per acre per year.

About 300 acres of juniper thinning would stimulate understory plant growth reducing annual erosion rates to less that 5 tons per acre per year.

Reduction of grazing on 1,350 acres of steep slopes and slipping soils in allotments 4073, 4062, 4214, and 4253 at Oneida Narrows would occur if monitoring shows erosion rates of more the 5 ton/acre/year. Reduction of grazing on 1,360 acres of ashy soils subject to high erosion rates in allotments 4012, 4181, 4366 and 4397 would occur if monitoring shows erosion rates of more the 5 ton/acre/year.

Reclamation of 224 acres of Woodall Mountain mining area would stabilize mine tailings and reduce erosion rates.

About 808 acres of commercial forest without restricted management practices would have some short-term and long-term erosion impacts.

Full fire suppression for the planning unit would give the area the best option for reduced erosion following wildfires.

Other than a few small wildlife juniper eradication and habitat improvement seedings, no land treatment improvements are planned for this Alternative. Small wildlife and range development improvements would generally have only limited short-term erosion impacts. The impacts on sensitive soil areas and mitigation measures to reduce these impacts would be addressed in individual activity plans and environmental assessments as the RMP plan is implemented.

Economic Condition

Native Americans

There would be no economic impact on Native Americans with this Alternative.

Minerals

This Alternative would have no economic impact on the minerals industry in the economic region.

Livestock

Initially, there would be 28,840 AUMs available for livestock under this Alternative. This would generate direct earnings of $624,900. The total economic impact would be $1.6 million (including the multiplier effect). These levels of earnings would represent 0.6 and 0.1 percent, respectively, of the farm and total earnings (1983) in the PRA.

This level of AUMs would generate direct employment of 27 jobs. Including the multiplier effect, the total number of jobs generated would be 79.

In the short-term, there would be a loss of capital value of between $17,000 and $77,000.

In the long-term (15 years), there would be 29,519 AUMs available for livestock under this Alternative. This would generate direct earnings of $639,600. The total economic impact would be $1.6 million (including the multiplier effect). These would represent 0.6 and 0.1 percent, respectively, of the 1983 farm and total PRA earnings.

This level of AUMs would generate direct employment of 28 jobs. Including the multiplier effect, the total number of jobs generated would be 81.

In the long-term, there would be a gain of capital value of between $21,000 and $93,000.

Appendix E shows how these earnings, employment, and capital value estimates were made.